

Harry S. Truman PTO  
1400 Gaskill Ave  
Allentown, PA 18103  
610-791-2800

**PTO MEETING – Monday, December 9rd, 2019**

**Meeting called to order by:** President Jennifer Kelley at 7:00PM

**Roll Call of Officers:** All present

**Attendance:** 12 in attendance

**Minutes:** The minutes of 11/4/2019 meeting were accepted by Devon Dredge and 2nd by Michelle Martucci

**Special Guests:**  
Camille from SFE

**Officers' Reports:**  
Treasurer: Given by Jennifer Knecht

Income

- \$32,986 account balance (Scrip order money still in the account)
- \$850 Movie Night
- \$3,600 Vendor Fair
- \$872 Perkins Pie
- \$15,095 Scrip Sales

Expenses

- Awaiting the withdrawal of the scrip gift card order

**Principal's Report:** Given by Zachary Brem

- On Wednesday November 13th, 4th grade traveled to Harrisburg. The day was enjoyed by all students and staff that attended. Thank you to the PTO for sponsoring this event!
- The Holiday Shop for this year has now concluded. This fun event allows students to shop without their parents making this a good confidence builder and most of all, the children discover the Joy of Giving! Thank you to the PTO for sponsoring this event and to all the volunteers that helped make it a success!
- Our 4th and 5th graders as well as the band and chorus performed for families on Thursday, December 5th. It was great to hear all the talented students. We thank Mr. Leiderman, Mr. Griffis, and Dr. Sheeto for all their hard work in making this event possible.
- T-Shirt day is Thursday December 19th. Please have your students wear their HST gear!

- HST will have an early dismissal on Friday December 20th. Students will be dismissed at 1:00pm. School will be closed on Monday December 23th, through Friday, January 3rd, for Winter Break. I hope everyone enjoys the holidays and have a relaxing break with your families.

**Teacher's Report:** Given by Zachary Brem

- Kindergarten: Thank you for giving our youngest students the opportunity to shop at the Holiday Shop! They were so excited about their purchases. Also, Mrs. Schey's class will be visiting The Rittenhouse Village Nursing home next week to bring some cheer to the residents there.
- 1st: Thank you so much for all that you do for our students here at HST! They enjoyed shopping at the Holiday Shop tremendously! The teachers really enjoyed the Starbucks Gift Cards and great variety of presents this year! We loved the idea of shopping on a Friday night and having a movie to draw the parents in! We hope that went well! We also thank you for our upcoming teacher's breakfast before the holidays! Your kindness towards the teachers is always appreciated greatly! We are still in the planning stages of our First Field Trip hopefully at DeSales to see a play, "The Jungle Book." Have a Happy Holiday!
- 2nd: Holidays Around the World are in full swing with stops to both Mexico and Germany to learn about the traditions and cultures during the holiday season. The students are identifying the country on their maps and creating travel brochures that highlight the country's flag as well as 4 different customs, items, or celebrations that take place.
- 3rd: We are anxiously awaiting to see if we received the grant money to get a Garden Tower in 3rd grade! Updated news: We received the grant for the tower!! So exciting! Mrs. Judd will be ordering that as soon as she is allowed to place the order. Kellyn Foundation comes this month to talk about healthy eating. Thank you to the PTO for the wonderful Holiday Shop. The children love to shop for their loved ones and friends and themselves.
- 4th: We had a great time in Harrisburg, again thank you for funding the trip. The students are looking forward to the Holiday shop. Thank you for organizing it every year. The PTO does so much for our students and staff, thank you for donating your time and your energy.
- 5th: Happy Holidays from 5th grade! We are excited to continue the passion project of one of our 5th grade students: collecting toys to deliver to children battling cancer. We celebrate her compassion for others and the desire to make a difference. Also, we look forward to the teachers' breakfast and sincerely thank the PTO for their hospitality.
- Specialists/Other: We had our first Truman Treasure days with 5th grade helpers helping to shop. This year we switched up the items to be more of a school store, books, activities, raffles, and a smaller amount of other smaller items. If any parent would like to donate school supplies or used books, the Treasure Room would be appreciative. 5th grade helpers are in the process of writing letters to some local businesses for donations.

- Our After-School Program is starting this week for students receiving extra support in reading. We will have 2 six-week sessions this year. K-2 students will stay after school on Tuesdays and grades 3-5 will stay after school on Wednesdays. We are excited to provide an extra opportunity pre-teach and re-teach skills and strategies learned in the classroom.
- Just a huge thank you for supporting the water bottle filling station initiative by placing the collection jars out during your evening holiday shop/movie event. More information about fundraising events to come after the new year.

### **Committee Reports/Fundraisers/Events:**

#### Holiday Shop: Given by Jennifer Kelley

- We had a very successful holiday shop
- Can drop the 2PM class per day, if we switch it the second week of December instead
- Can we have 5<sup>th</sup> grade helpers to help wrap
- More selection of teenager items
- Make sure the teachers are aware that gift cards can be purchased to be used in the holiday shop
- Night shop was a great turn out with the move to Friday combined with Movie Night

#### Movie Night: Given by Jennifer Kelley

- Made \$850
- Crowd control and noise level while watching the movie
- Idea to have in the HS auditorium next time

#### Perkins Pie: Given by Jennifer Kelley

- Made \$872

#### Dine and Donate: Given by Joni Blunt

- Next Wednesday at Queen City
- Need Money from Taps and PJ Whelan's, Joni checking in with them

#### Roller Skating: Given by Michelle Martucci

- February 13<sup>th</sup>,
- Coupon coming home shortly
- Free pass for 12/26 or 12/30 6-9 PM

#### Staff Holiday Breakfast: Given by Jennifer Gnull

- 12/17 hosting a holiday breakfast for HST Staff
- Sign up Genius sent out and posted Facebook
- Mr. Brem will send an email out with the sign-up genius to all HST families

### **Old Business**

#### Vendor Fair: Given by Devon Dredge

- Positive Feedback from vendors and shoppers
- Lots of suggestions on improvement for next time

- Suggestions on raffle drawing
- Card my yard was very helpful in bringing in a lot of traffic

### **New Business**

#### Money for Gaga Pit

- Cost \$500
- Students raised money via the walk a thon
- Student voted on having a gaga pit
- They have enough funds to put in the gaga pit from the activity fund
- List of materials has been made
- Unfortunately, we will need to wait till warmer weather to assemble

#### Access to the building and outdoor lighting

- Very hard to get in to the building on meeting nights
- Is it possible to have the door left unlock instead of having to have someone open for every person?
- Lights in parking lot
- Light outside Café door
- Mr. Brem will check with B. Brackett on both items

#### Apple TV

- An anonymous donation of an Apple TV was given to the PTO
- Donor asked the PTO to present this donation to Mr. Brem for use in the Library

**Review Activity Calendar:** Given by Jennifer Kelley

12/19 T-shirt Day and Winter celebrations, 12/20 Early Dismissal 1PM, 12/23-1/3 Winter Break

**Next meeting is 1/6/2020 at 7 PM in the staff lounge**

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:17 PM**

**Minutes compiled by Nicoll Spinner, Secretary**